

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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**NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL
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(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

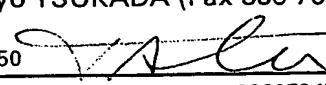
To:

ASAMURA, Kiyoshi
 Room 331, New Otemachi Bldg.
 2-1, Otemachi 2-chome
 Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0004
 Japan

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 29 January 2004 (29.01.2004)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference W1317-00	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP2003/016392	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 December 2003 (19.12.2003)
International publication date (day/month/year) Not yet published	Priority date (day/month/year) 25 December 2002 (25.12.2002)
Applicant HITACHI METALS, LTD. et al	

1. By means of this Form, which replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents, the applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to all earlier application(s) whose priority is claimed. Unless otherwise indicated by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column or by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
2. (If applicable) The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which, on the date of mailing of this Form, had not yet been received by the International Bureau under Rule 17.1(a) or (b). Where, under Rule 17.1(a), the priority document must be submitted by the applicant to the receiving Office or the International Bureau, but the applicant fails to submit the priority document within the applicable time limit under that Rule, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
3. (If applicable) An asterisk(*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b) (the priority document was received after the time limit prescribed in Rule 17.1(a) or the request to prepare and transmit the priority document was submitted to the receiving Office after the applicable time limit under Rule 17.1(b)). Even though the priority document was not furnished in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b), the International Bureau will nevertheless transmit a copy of the document to the designated Offices, for their consideration. In case such a copy is not accepted by the designated Office as priority document, Rule 17.1(c) provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

<u>Priority date</u>	<u>Priority application No.</u>	<u>Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office</u>	<u>Date of receipt of priority document</u>
25 Dec 2002 (25.12.2002)	2002-373727	JP	15 Janu 2004 (15.01.2004)

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.70.10	Authorized officer Michiyo TSUKADA (Fax 338 7010) Telephone No. (41-22) 338 8450 
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